

Church of the Open Bible

(Church of God General Conference, McDonough GA)

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Pastor Rex F. Cain / 440.232.3970 / July 5, 2009

Words For Our Times

"For the day of the LORD draws near on all the nations. As you have done, it will be done to you. Your dealings will return on your own head." (Obadiah 15)

We live in unprecedented times. Turmoil among the nations of the world has never been greater, and vehement threats against the Israeli nation are at fever pitch. Tremendous pressure is brought to bear against this tiny nation to give up territory presumed to belong to non-Jewish peoples. Yet any territory given up in the near future is destined to be temporary at best. Obadiah's words read like tomorrow's headlines:

"Then those of the Negev will possess the mountain of Esau, And those of the Shephelah the Philistine plain; Also, possess the territory of Ephraim and the territory of Samaria, And Benjamin will possess Gilead. And the exiles of this host of the sons of Israel, Who are among the Canaanites as far as Zarephath, And the exiles of Jerusalem who are in Sepharad Will possess the cities of the Negev. The deliverers will ascend Mount Zion To judge the mountain of Esau, And the kingdom will be the LORD'S." (Obadiah 19-21)

The modern-day conflict, as it has always been, is all about territory. Numerous peoples feel it to be their right to possess real estate in the Middle East inhabited by others. But one thing is certain: the Israeli nation is destined for astounding expansion. Now, lest we feel threatened by this Zionist movement, we do well to remember that by faith we each are a part of it.

"if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendants, heirs according to promise." (Galatians 3:29)

The amazing triumph of the Jewish nation is our triumph as well. It is ultimately not about race but grace. People of faith are fully adopted into the lineage of promise through Christ, the descendant of Abraham. As such we have a rightful claim to the land of the Middle East, destined to be the headquarters of the Kingdom of God.

Diplomats are actively seeking a brilliant solution to the centuries-old conflict in the Middle East. Unfortunately, a charismatic political figure will arise to offer a solution that will result in worldwide domination and unprecedented bloodshed. But our hope lies beyond that intense tumultuous time. As Obadiah was inspired to promise, **"And the kingdom will be the LORD'S."**

With an eye on today's news and our other eye on God's word, we are in an opportune position to live hopefully and to share freely of the greatest good news concerning the Kingdom of God. Don't let today's disturbing news of military aggression or political upheavals deter you from the resolute fact that **"the kingdom will be the LORD'S."**

As those who know the true outcome of today's events, let's live triumphantly.
– Pastor Steve Taylor, Arizona / 6-29-09



**DEACONESSES FOR COMMUNION TODAY are
Mary Ellen Jones and Nancy Koston**

Pastor Rex, I want to thank our church again for the opportunity that they gave my little girl; by paying for her to go to Camp Summit. She really had a great time!

Annabelle had a BLAST at camp. She's already committed to going next summer! Annabelle loved being there with Andrew Weaver. She really attached herself to him; as a lot of the other kids did too, including Lily. He is wonderful with kids! Annabelle could have stayed for another month. - Love, Susan May & family

RENEE KOSTYO has been dismissed from the hospital and returned

to her group home and is much improved. Keep her and her family in prayer.

**ARE YOU COMING TO OUR 50TH ANNIVERSARY?
WE'D LOVE TO HAVE YOU!! / SEPT. 13, 2009.
PICTURES & DINNER AT 5PM
SATURDAY, SEPT. 12TH**

If you could let us know you plan to attend, it would help us
prepare for your arrival!

MICHAL SITTEK sent me an email 6-30 and said: *Please say hi to everyone and we'll send you another email soon. (From Prague)*

BRUSHCREEK'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY

July 24-26, 2009 / Begins 7p.m. Friday

Guests: Robin Todd (singer), Kent Ross, Dale Swartz, Joe Martin, Dan Gill ending with a Pig Roast & Ice Cream Social Sat. evening.

An extended Service Sunday with more guests.

FRANK ROPER: *Hi Rex, When Michal and I landed Wed the 24th his brother was there to meet us; we came home & packed and went to SPA close to the Austrian Border and just came home today [6-30] at 4pm, I went to the Opera tonight and saw Figaro, It was awesome. I hope everything is fine at home and with you and your family. Tell everyone at Church we said hi and I miss all of you. I will write again as soon as possible, Love you all Frank and Michal*

4th of July on the Lite Side:

"You have to love a nation that celebrates its independence every July 4, not with a parade of guns, tanks, and soldiers who file by the White House in a show of strength and muscle, but with family picnics where kids throw Frisbees, the potato salad gets iffy, and the flies die from happiness. You may think you have overeaten, but it is patriotism."
- Erma Bombeck

PRAY FOR: Luke (4-yr old, cancer, by SMay), Gene & Gloria Faehnrich, Quick INS inspection approval of ABC campuses, W.C. Blankenship (heart), Susan May, Jacob Hinton, Kris Fiocca (by SBurnham), Lucinda (by ASzekely), Jean Szantes (cancer, by Arlene), Josh Eberly (by SMay), Pastors Don Ward & Leon Driskill; Ken Cramer, Tammy (Koston) Lisiecki, Leslie & Stanley Hervert (by Grace), Ruth Schuld, Susan (Stine) Bradley, Edith Speer, Jack Hearp, Kathy Reed+3 children, Craig Blankenship, **College students:** Laura Schuld, Andrew Weaver, **Shut-ins:** Carol Reed,

Evelyn Pennington, Amy Dunbar Puehler **Military:** Rodger Schuld, **Missionaries in other countries:** Gaston Ucanay-Peru, Mauro Apolos Gonzalez-Uruguay, Lupe Badillo-Mexico, Tracy Zhykhovich-Russia, Pastors in Malawi & Mozambique, Lesly Bertrand and the Pastors in Haiti. / **Churches:** Knightstown Family Fellowship IN, Korean Extension Steve & Sam An, RRCC, ABC, Golden Rule, Grace Brethren and for the peace of Jerusalem, Ps. 122:6; Isa. 62:6, 7

JULY 2009

05 Enter to worship, leave to serve / Communion Sunday
8-10 General Conference in Oregon IL / Rex-Sharon attending
12 Pastor Cain will be absent this Sunday / Elders to select speaker
19-24 National Youth Camp / Manchester College in Indiana

SEPT. 13, 2009 / 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!

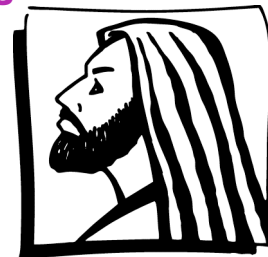
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45A.M.
WORSHIP 10:45A.M.

Musician: Sharon Cain
Welcome / Announcements / Prayer
Worship Hymns: Mark Cain
316 I Am Thine, O Lord
465 Rock of Ages
Prayer / Offering
Message: "Why We Gather Together"
Key Verses: Acts 20:7-12; Jn 6:31-33; 14:6; Acts 4:12;
Jam 4:10; 2 Tim 4:1-4; Ps 122:1; Ex 20:8-11; Rom 13:11;
1 Cor 2:9
Communion: Pastor Cain
547 We Gather Together



The Face Of Jesus Could Pull Us Together

A father wanted to read a magazine but was being bothered by his little girl, Shelby. She wanted to know what the United States looked like. Finally, he tore a sheet out of his new magazine on which was printed the map of the country. Tearing it into small pieces, he gave it to Shelby and said, 'Go into the other room and see if you can put this together. This will show you



our whole country today.'

After a few minutes, Shelby returned and handed him the map, correctly fitted and taped together. The father was surprised and asked how she had finished so quickly. 'Oh,' she said, 'on the other side of the paper is a picture of Jesus. When I got all of Jesus back where He belonged, then our country just came together.'

-Submitted by Shilah Pryor (Rex & Sharon's granddaughter), 12-22-08

1959 - 2009 = 50 Yrs!